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03/06/2013 Minutes

Arlington Open Space Committee Minutes

March 6, 2013

Approved, April 25, 2013

Present: Ann LeRoyer, Joey Glushko, David White, Elizabeth Karpati, Jane Auger, Leslie Mayer. **Absent:** Teresa de Benedictis, Lisa Decker, Michele Hassler, Patsy Kraemer.

- **Minutes:** December minutes were approved by the informal (no quorum) meeting on February 6. The meeting originally planned for January 2 was cancelled. It was suggested that whenever there is no official meeting on what was a scheduled date, this should be noted in the next meeting's minutes so that it will be clear in the future that no minutes have been lost.
- **New meeting day:** Because Wednesdays present a conflict for some members, we decided to move our meetings to the fourth Thursday of the month. Remaining meetings for this fiscal year will be April 25, May 28, June 27.
- **Ethics training:** Joey reminded everyone once again that the on-line training required by the state must be completed by April 5.
- **Mill Brook:** David will check about meeting with the Con Com and the Town Manager and Town Counsel regarding the access problem at the Arlington Catholic high school field.
- **Rain Gardens:** Two will be installed this year, at Hurd Field and the Hardy School, sponsored by MyRWA. Joey has contacted the Covenant School about making signs for the Hurd Field garden. The Res Committee could also ask them about helping with cleanups.
- **Master Plan:** The process has been delayed but it may help revitalize the plans for Mill Brook. Joey and Adam Kurowski are looking at co-occurring characteristics for the next Master Plan meeting on 3/19.
- **Open Space Plan:** The next version is due in 2014. The guidelines haven't changed since the last version, but the state may want more information on recreational resources this time. We need to start working on it this fall, looking at which sections need updating and which can stay the same, and preparing a warrant article for Town Meeting 2014 for money to hire a consultant.
- **Park and Recreation Commission:** Leslie reported that the PRC is reviewing recreational areas and equipment for ADA compliance. Playgrounds are upgraded one by one; Florence will be done this year, Hibbert Street next year. The Thorndike Street off-leash area has proved a big success and has been named the best in Boston. Some parks are still having problems with dogs running off-leash at the wrong hours, so more enforcement is needed. In Waldo Park, an "Arts in the Parks" project has added sculptural elements to a big tree stump
- **Downing Square:** Work on the project is getting started.
- **EcoFest**, March 23, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. OSC shares a table with the Land Trust. Ann will bring display materials.